Notice of Determination

To:

Office of Planning and Research CEQA Submit

From:

Department of Fish and Wildlife South Coast Region 5 3883 Ruffin Road San Diego, CA 92123 Contact: Sarah Rains Email: sarah.rains@wildlife.ca.gov

Phone: (661) 414-2729

Lead Agency City of Lompoc

Contact: Cherridah Weigel Email: c_weigel@ci.lompoc.ca.us

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SUBJECT: Filing of Notice of Determination pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21108

State Clearinghouse Number: SCH# 2021020258

Project Title: City of Lompoc Floradale Crossing Directional Drill Sewer Line Project (Streambed Alteration

Agreement No. EPIMS-SBA-18856-R5)

Project Location (Santa Barbara County): The project is located at Santa Ynez River, in the County of Santa Barbara, State of California; Latitude 34.401824, Longitude -120.293363; immediately upstream of the Floradale Avenue crossing over Santa Ynez River, Lompoc, CA, 93436; Assessor's Parcel Number (APN) 095-040-004

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has executed Streambed Alteration Agreement (EPIMS-SBA-18856-R5), pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 1602, to the project Applicant, City of Lompoc represented by Joshua Leard.

The project is to install a sewer line beneath the Santa Ynez River using two 12-inch diameter high-density polyethylene (HDPE) pipes and horizontal directional drilling (HDD) trenchless technology. The entrance pit will be located north of the river on the eastern shoulder of Santa Lucia Canyon Road north of the intersection with the Rancho Lompoc Farm Road and the Bureau of Prisons access road. The exit pit will be located south of the river on the eastern shoulder of Floradale Avenue. The pipe layout area will extend beyond the exit pit for 1,200 feet. The length of the bore will be approximately 1,200 feet allowing a 300-foot buffer from the edge of the river on the north and a 400-foot buffer from the edge of the river on the south. The pipes will run to a depth of 60 feet below the riverbed and banks. Directional drilling is scheduled to take place in the late summer and fall prior to November 1 when no birds are actively nesting. All existing native vegetation along the entire project directional drill alignment was removed by the separate concurrent Santa Barbara County bridge replacement project in 2021 except for the approximately 40-foot strip surrounding the low-flow channel of the river. Existing non-native grasses may be removed from the edge of the gravel roadway shoulder at the location of the entrance pit, north of the river. Existing temporary stabilization plantings from the Santa Barbara County bridge project's hydroseed may be removed at the location of the exit pit south of the river, and from adjacent work areas. The only water present in the river at this time will be discharge from the nearby Lompoc Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant which results in a stagnant pool approximately 1 foot in depth by 15 feet in width. Construction will take up to five weeks and will include a horizontal directional drill rig, support vehicles, excavators, loaders, and utility trucks

This is to advise that CDFW, acting as a Responsible Agency, approved the project described above on _____ and has made the following determinations regarding the project pursuant to California Code of Regulations section 15096, subdivision (i):

- 1. The project will not have a significant effect on the environment. This determination is limited to effects within CDFW's permitting jurisdiction as a Responsible Agency.
- 2. CDFW considered the Negative Declaration prepared by the Lead Agency for this project pursuant to California Code of Regulations section 15096, subdivision (f).

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- 3. Mitigation measures were made a condition of CDFW's approval of the project.
- 4. A Mitigation Reporting or Monitoring Plan was not adopted by CDFW for this project.
- 5. A Statement of Overriding Considerations was not adopted by CDFW for this project.
- 6. Findings were not made by CDFW pursuant to California Code of Regulations section 15091.

The Negative Declaration prepared for the project is available to the general public at the office location listed above for the Lead Agency. CDFW's record of project approval as a Responsible Agency is available at CDFW's regional office____DocuSigned by: 8/12/2022 Signature: Erinn Wilson-Olgin
Erinn Wilson-Olgin, Environmental Program Manager _____Date<u>:</u>

Date Received for filing at OPR: